

FINANCIAL SERVICES REPUBLICAN MORNING CLIPS 3.17.2010

Wall Street Journal: "Cities, States Tell Big Banks They'll Go Elsewhere ... Fed up with the tight supply of credit, state and local governments across the U.S. are starting to punish big banks."

Wall Street Journal: "Fed Joins Chorus Singing 'Jobs, Jobs, Jobs' ... President Barack Obama isn't the only one obsessed with 'jobs, jobs, jobs.' The Federal Reserve is similarly focused on unemployment."

Wall Street Journal: "Bernanke to Defend Fed Role ... Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke will argue at a hearing Wednesday in favor of retaining the central bank's oversight of smaller banks."

Wall Street Journal: "Fed to End Mortgage-Purchase Program ... The Federal Reserve said it will end, as planned, one of its main supports for the U.S. economy-purchases of \$1.25 trillion of mortgage-backed securities-allowing a nascent economic recovery to stand with less government support."

Washington Post: "Fed to leave interest rates near zero a little longer ... The Federal Reserve stood by its policy of keeping interest rates at rock-bottom levels for the foreseeable future at its policymaking meeting Tuesday even as central bank officials took a more positive tone about the economy."

Washington Post: "Financial reform would shift Fed's authority away from regional banks ... In the details of the financial

reform legislation introduced this week are fundamental changes to the Federal Reserve that would shift power from the regional Fed banks around the country and concentrate it in Washington and New York."

Washington Post: "Dodd 2.0: Maybe we need to reboot ... Wading through the 1,336-page "chairman's mark" of the Senate's financial regulatory reform bill, my initial reaction was the same as the Senate Republican leader's response to any Democratic initiative: Put this sucker aside and start over."

NY Times: "Japan Eases Monetary Policy to Fight Deflation ... In a bid to shore up a deflation-plagued economy, Japan's central bank eased monetary policy further on Wednesday by boosting a bank-loan program, setting the world's second-largest economy on a divergent path from other industrialized nations."

NY Times: "Fed Affirms Plan to End Mortgage Intervention ... The Federal Reserve on Tuesday affirmed its plan to stop buying mortgage-backed securities, expressing a degree of confidence that it could eliminate that pillar of support without undermining the nation's economic recovery."

NY Times: "Central Banks Give Markets a Reason to Rise ... Markets in Asia and Europe rose on Wednesday after central banks in Japan and the United States offered traders a little reassurance."

NY Times: "Why Consumers Can't Trust the Fed ... ON Monday, Senator Christopher Dodd unveiled his proposal to reform the nation's financial regulatory system, including a new agency to protect consumers from predatory practices like teaser mortgages and misleading credit card contracts."

LA Times: "Lehman's collapse was all its own fault ... The bankruptcy of Lehman Bros. in September 2008 is widely seen as the event that kicked the financial meltdown into high gear."

USA Today: "Bernanke: Supervising banks helps Fed set interest rates ... Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke plans to wage a fresh battle against Senate efforts to scale back the Fed's role in supervising the nation's banks."

Washington Times: "Fed weighs how and when to signal higher rates ... Debate is heating up within the Federal Reserve over how and when to signal that the days of record-low interest rates are numbered."

Washington Times: "FITTON: Secret mortgage politics ... There is a scandal behind the collapse of Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac and their role in helping trigger the ongoing financial crisis. A key component of understanding exactly what went on is the role political corruption played in the failure of adequate congressional oversight and the catastrophic collapse of these "government-sponsored entities" in 2008."

Forbes: "Ugly Beasts Loom Again ... In Hollywood a good box-office monster is never permanently killed; it reemerges in a sequel to wreak havoc once more on the citizenry. American taxpayers will soon have the same feeling of horror: Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac are climbing out of the swamps. The economy and taxpayers' wallets will once again be hit up."

Bloomberg: "Unrepentant Bankers Undercut Reform With Vengeance: David Pauly ... Bankers should be a humble crew."

Their reckless trading almost ruined the world economy. But they are as arrogant as ever."

The Hill: "Top 10 lobbying fights over financial reform overhaul legislation ... Lobbyists are scurrying to make major changes to the 1,336-page financial overhaul legislation Sen. Chris Dodd (D-Conn.) released this week."